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*27 Aug - FYI*

Contact w/ Academics  
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18 November 1975

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MEMORANDUM FOR: [Redacted]

SUBJECT : Project Outreach -- the visit of Mr. Saul B. Cohen to OPR (12 November 1975)

1. Mr. Cohen had read the OPR/IFS Informal Memorandum and dropped by to chat about the nature and scope of our 1976 research program. His current work centers on the issues involved in studying interdependence in international affairs and he has adapted the geographic technique of network analysis -- the systematic tracing of interaction patterns across space and time -- to his research on international relations. He suggested that political geographers especially will be increasingly focusing on how current economic and political problems link countries despite distance and culture area factors.

2. Mr. Cohen welcomed a chance to chat about his research and ours and hoped that such contacts would multiply in the future. He said that academics in particular should make an effort to assure their CIA colleagues that they needn't feel like pariahs and that research is as legitimate an activity for the CIA as it is for a university.

3. Background: Mr. Cohen is Director, The Graduate School of Geography, at Clark University in Massachusetts and the nominee of the President of the University of Massachusetts to be the next Chancellor. He is a past president of the American Geographical Association and a consultant to the National Science Foundation and the US Office of Education. His most recent publications include the Oxford World Atlas, the book, The Geography of Politics in a Divided World, as well as a number of articles on the nature of change in the international system. He received his PhD from Harvard and taught there until geography was abolished as a field of study.

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